

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

<b>DANYAL SHAIKH,</b> <i>Plaintiff,</i>	§	
	§	
	§	
v.	§	<b>Civil Action No. 4:16-CV-00591</b>
	§	
<b>TEXAS A&amp;M UNIVERSITY</b> <b>COLLEGE OF MEDICINE et al.,</b> <i>Defendant.</i>	§	
	§	
	§	

**DEFENDANT’S STATEMENT REGARDING USMLE PASSAGE RATES AND  
APPLICATIONS FOR READMISSION**

Pursuant to the Court’s Management Order entered April 16, 2019 (dkt. 73), Defendant Texas A&M University College of Medicine provides the following requested information:

- (A) The number of students who have withdrawn from A&M’s medical school and then been denied readmission (in the last 10 years).**

Texas A&M does not keep a record of students who reapply for admission to its medical school after withdrawing, as this occurrence is exceedingly rare. However, Texas A&M can state with reasonable certainty, based on the collective memory of its officials, that Danyal Shaikh is the only former student to have withdrawn from A&M’s medical school and then been denied readmission.

- (B) The percentage of students who fail the Step I test.**

The following is information provided to Texas A&M by the National Board of Medical Examiners that shows the passage rate for Texas A&M medical students for the Step I exam as compared to the national average from 2009-2018:

Year	A&M Step I Passage	National Step I Passage
2009	97% (3% failure)	93% (7% failure)
2010	96% (4% failure)	91% (9% failure)
2011	99% (1% failure)	94% (6% failure)

2012	95% (5% failure)	95% (5% failure)
2013	97% (3% failure)	96% (4% failure)
2014	98% (2% failure)	96% (4% failure)
2015	97% (3% failure)	95% (5% failure)
2016	95% (5% failure)	95% (5% failure)
2017	97% (3% failure)	96% (4% failure)
2018	98% (2% failure)	96% (4% failure)

This number reflects the percentage of students who pass/fail the Step I exam in a given year.

Texas A&M does not keep a formal record of students who fail the Step I exam but do not later pass the exam upon retaking. However, based on the collective memory of its officials, Texas A&M can state with reasonable certainty that no students, other than Danyal Shaikh, have failed the Step I exam but have not subsequently retaken and passed it while they were still enrolled at Texas A&M.

**(C) The general attrition rate of medical students at A&M and other large state universities.**

In the past 10 years, 32 students (out of 1550) failed to graduate from Texas A&M medical school, a 2% attrition rate for the past 10 years.

Texas A&M does not maintain data regarding attrition rates for other medical schools at large state universities. However, data provided by the American Association of Medical Colleges regarding attrition rates at U.S. medical schools from 2003-2013 may be found at: <https://www.aamc.org/download/492842/data/graduationratesandattritionratesofu.s.medicalstudents.pdf>, and are attached to this statement.

**(D) The rate at which people take the exam, drop out after failing it, and then reapply.**

Danyal Shaikh is the only student Texas A&M medical student in the past 10 years who has withdrawn from the program after failing the Step I exam then reapplied.

Respectfully submitted.

KEN PAXTON  
Attorney General of Texas

JEFFREY C. MATEER  
First Assistant Attorney General

DARREN L. MCCARTY  
Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation

AMANDA J. COCHRAN-MCCALL  
Chief, General Litigation Division

/s/ Emily Ardolino  
ERIC A. HUDSON  
Attorney-in-Charge  
Southern District ID No. 1000759  
Texas Bar No. 24059977  
EMILY ARDOLINO  
Southern District ID No. 2218021  
Texas Bar No. 24087112  
Assistant Attorneys General  
Office of the Attorney General - 019  
General Litigation Division  
P.O. Box 12548, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
(512) 463-2120  
(512) 320-0667 FAX  
eric.hudson@oag.texas.gov  
emily.ardolino@oag.texas.gov  
*Attorneys for Defendant*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed electronically with the Court delivered by CM/ECF and by e-mail on May 21, 2019, to:

Martin J. Cirkiel  
Holly Griffith Terrell  
Cirkiel & Associates, P.C.  
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.  
Round Rock, Texas 78664  
*Plaintiff's Attorneys*

/s/ Emily Ardolino  
EMILY ARDOLINO  
Assistant Attorney General

# AAMC Data Snapshot

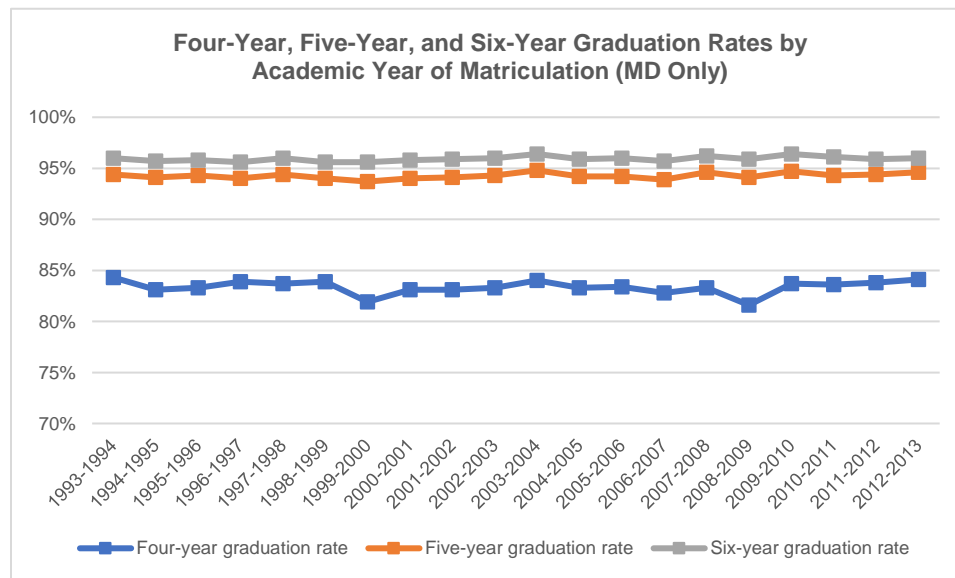


October 2018

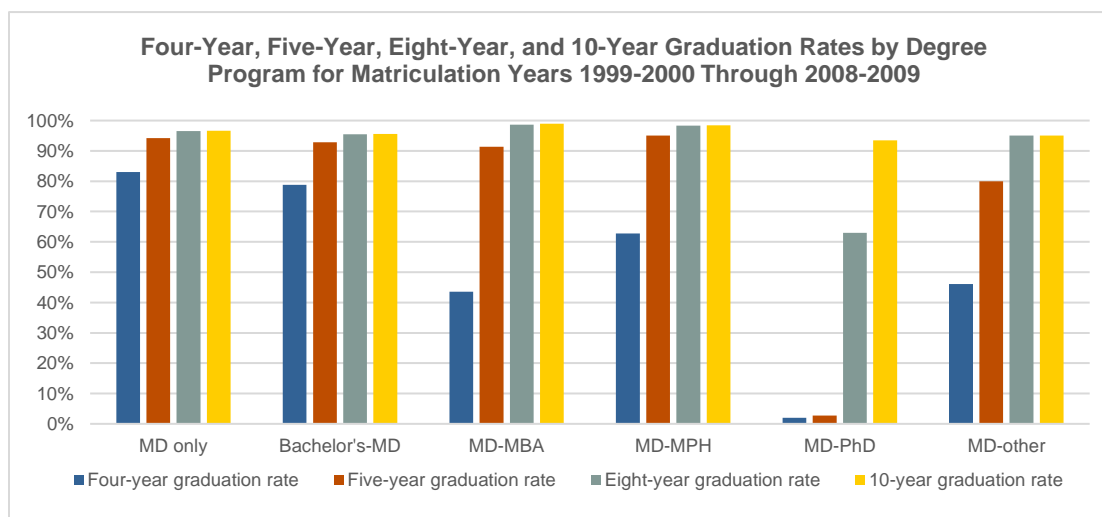
## Graduation Rates and Attrition Rates of U.S. Medical Students

Source: AAMC Student Records System (SRS)

**Key Findings:** Medical school graduation rates for MD students remained stable from 1993-1994 through 2012-2013. The four-year graduation rate ranged from 81.6% to 84.3%. Six years after matriculation, the average graduation rate was 95.9% of MD students not participating in combined degree programs.



The length of time to graduate varied for students in combined degree programs. For example, in a 10-year period from 1999-2000 through 2008-2009, 63.0% of MD-PhD students graduated within eight years of matriculation. That percentage reached 93.5% of MD-PhD students graduating within 10 years of matriculation. Most students in the other types of combined degree programs (e.g., MD-MPH) graduated within five years of matriculation.



# AAMC Data Snapshot



From 1993-1994 through 2012-2013, more medical students left medical school for nonacademic than for academic reasons, according to data reported by medical school registrars in the AAMC Student Records System (SRS). The total national attrition rate remained relatively stable at an average of 3.3% over those 20 years. Additionally, attrition rates appeared to vary by type of degree program. For academic years 2003-2004 through 2012-2013 combined, students in MD-MBA combined degree programs had the lowest overall attrition rate (0.8%), and students in combined bachelor's-MD programs had the highest overall attrition rate (4.8%).

